



# urban.

## RENAISSANCE

NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE



Alex Kosseff

## Views of downtown

### MTO (Made to Order) Café

opened Oct. 22 on the ground level of the parking garage directly across from the new City Hall. The restaurant offers organic comfort food with a unique twist.



MTO photo by June Johns

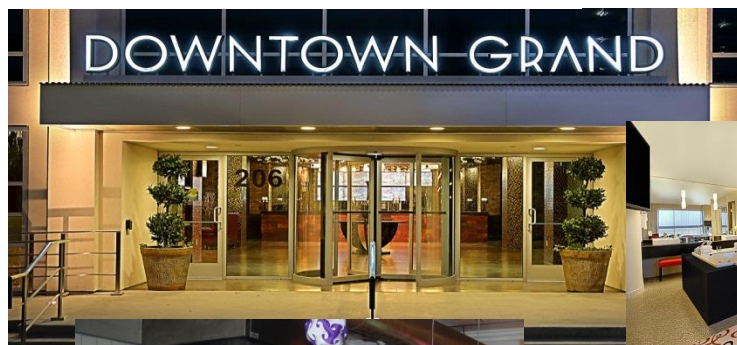
**Pizza Rock** opened last week on Third Street near the Downtown Grand. It boasts a chef who won top pizza-making honors at a prestigious competition in Naples, Italy (birth place of the pizza).

Speaking of the **Downtown Grand**: the newly upgraded incarnation of the Lady Luck showcased a \$100 million renovation with its soft opening the last weekend in October.

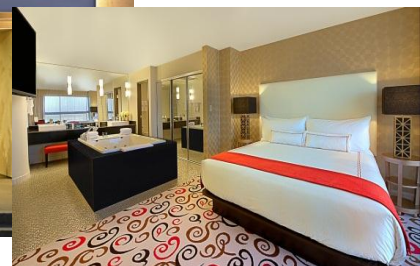


Pizza Rock photo by June Johns

**Art of Flavors** is another downtown newcomer, serving gourmet gelato at 1616 Las Vegas Blvd. South.



Photos to left and below courtesy of the Downtown Grand



Art of Flavors photo by June Johns



Kelley Brasier



Larry Cruikshank

Pictures directly above are some of winners of our **2013 Capture Downtown!** photo competition

## Zoning Code Changes Made

The city of Las Vegas continues to make improvements on reducing the time it takes for developers to receive approvals for their projects.

The City Council recently approved a bill amending the code related to submission of tentative maps, which had required 14 days between zoning and map approvals. Zoning requests and the tentative map approval process will now run concurrently for final action before the City Council. This eliminates the 14-day waiting period and ultimately saves the developer 30 days.

This is just one of the ways that the city is working to make it easier to do business.

In June, the city of Las Vegas became the first government agency in Nevada to accept land-use applications and plans online. This includes general plan amendments, rezoning requests, site plan reviews, variances, special use permits and more.

Residents, engineers and architects can now go through the entire zoning process from their computer, rather than going to the Development Services Center located at 333 N. Rancho Dr. Customers no longer have to submit multiple sets of plans, which saves them time and money. Plans and applications can now be processed immediately, allowing for simultaneous reviews among departments, thus speeding up the review process.

Future city plans include having the mapping process, civil plans, engineering plans and building permits available for submittal and review online.



City Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow (middle right) and others unveil a West Las Vegas sign as part of an Oct. 15 celebration of completed infrastructure and transportation improvements to D Street from Washington Avenue to Owens Avenue. The project was funded by a combination of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency, city, state and federal funds. *(Photo by Sherman Sheftall)*



City Hall photo by Ryan Reason

## Going for the Gold

Las Vegas City Hall has been awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold status by the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED rating system is the foremost program for buildings, homes and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for improved environmentally friendly performance.

City Hall's sustainable design includes rooftop solar panels and silver solar "trees" at ground level. These panels produce about 290,000 kilowatt hours of power for the building annually.

City Hall also features LED lighting, and an advanced heating and cooling system that registers outside temperatures and time of day to regulate the building.



Participants received an up-close, personal and fun tour of urban Las Vegas during last month's 2013 Happy Hour Big Bus Tour. The tour included downtown stops such as antique alley, Fremont East and 18b, The Las Vegas Arts District. *(Photo by June Johns)*